

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

EA-06 SAJ-01 /071 W

----- 057671

R 161611Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6065

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL DOUALA BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 2042

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, CM, UR, CH

SUBJ: VISIT OF SOVIET NAVAL WARSHIP TO DOUALA

1. OFFICIAL CAMEROON NEWS AGENCY (ACAP) AND CAMEROON TRIBUNE HAVE JUST ANNOUNCED EX POST FACTO THAT SOVIET WARSHIP "VORONEDSKI KOMSOLETS" MADE OFFICIAL VISIT TO DOUALA 10-14 JUNE 1975. SHIP REPORTEDLY RECEIVED AT CAMEROONIAN ARMED FORCES FACILITY IN DOUALA PORT AND COMMANDING OFFICER CAPTAIN EVGENIY MIKHAILOVICH ZVIAGIN RECEIVED FOR COURTESY CALL BY NAVAL COMMANDER PIERRE NDANGANG ON DAY ARRIVAL. LATTER VISIT SHIP NEXT DAY ACCOMPANIED BY SEVERAL TOP STAFF OFFICERS AS DID ALSO LITTORAL PROVINCE GOVERNOR MARCEL MENGUEME AND ENTOURAGE ON JUNE 12. SOVIET CREW SAID TO HAVE ENJOYED VOLLEYBALL AND BASKETBALL MATCHES WITH CAMEROONIAN NAVAL PERSONNEL.

2. LOCAL PRESS ITEMS GIVE FOLLOWING PARTICULARS ON VESSEL:  
LENGTH 115 METERS; DRAFT 5.30 METERS; DISPLACEMENT 4,000 TONS;  
CREW 246 MEN INCLUDING 20 OFFICERS; AND MILITARY CARGO CAPACITY  
OF "EASILY TRANSPORTING 80 TANKS" OR COMPARABLE VEHICLES.

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SEVASTOPOL CITED AS HOME BASE OF SHIP, WHICH SAID TO HAVE

VISITED OTHER SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PORTS, VIZ, DAKAR AND CONAKRY, BEFORE DOUALA CALL. PER CAMEROON TRIBUNE, NEXT DESTINATION "NOT DISCLOSED FOR REASONS OF SECURITY".

3. COMMENT: "VORONEDSKI KOMSOLETS" VISIT FIRST EVER OF SOVIET WARSHIP TO CAMEROON. WHILE MOTIVES BEHIND TYPE VESSEL INVOLVED AND PRECISE TIMING CALL CANNOT YET BE DISCERNED, POSSIBILITY EXISTS IT COULD PRESAGE AT LEAST TOKEN MILITARY ITEM ON SOVIET AID LIST IN FUTURE. SPECULATION TO THIS EFFECT FURTHER ENCOURAGED BY INTENSIFIED SINO-SOVIET COMPETITION LATELY FOR GURC FAVOR AND BY WIDESPREAD RUMOR, SEEMINGLY WELL-FOUNDED ALTHOUGH STILL OFFICIALLY UNACKNOWLEDGED, THAT GROUP CAMEROONIAN NAVAL PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN IN CHINA SOME MONTHS PAST ON TRAINING STINT. MOORE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NAVAL SHIPS, MILITARY VISITS, PORT FACILITIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Subject:** VISIT OF SOVIET NAVAL WARSHIP TO DOUALA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, CM, UR, CH  
**To:** STATE  
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